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January 24, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

The purpose of this letter is to support Microsoft and the antitrust settlement. The suit brought against Microsoft was frivolous and misplaced. Clearly, Microsoft has been the leader in the technology industry and has driven the incredibly positive returns in the stock market for the entire decade of the 1990s. Government meddling in business has almost never produced positive results – but in this case, the interference has been even more egregious than ever before. I disagree with any Government involvement.

The terms of the settlement will allow other companies the ability to compete and will also be more beneficial/ advantageous to consumers. In addition, Microsoft has agreed not to retaliate against software and hardware developers and competitors. They have also agreed to make it easier for non-Windows software to operate within Windows, starting with Windows XP. Surely, you must agree that Microsoft has shown much more than good faith in this entire, ridiculous lawsuit!

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carolyn A. Strand".

Carolyn A. Strand, Ph.D., CPA
Assistant Professor